

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and allowance of the present application based on the following remarks are respectfully requested.

Upon entry of the above amendments, claims 25, 29-34 and 41, as amended, will be pending. It is respectfully submitted that the amendments herein will place this application in a suitable condition for allowance and, therefore, Applicants respectfully request the entry of the amendments made herein.

Pursuant to the Office Action of January 4, 2002, indicating that dependent claim 28 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form, the Applicants have presented this claim as new independent claim 41. Likewise, all other claims have been made dependent from claim 41. Applicants submit that the homogenizing step of claim of claim 41 includes any and all methods of homogenizing a system according to the present invention. Accordingly, it is submitted that the pending rejection of claims 24-27 and 29-34 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) has been rendered moot by this Response, and therefore, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of this rejection.

Therefore, all objections and rejections having been addressed, it is respectfully submitted that the present application is in a condition for allowance and a Notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

Should any issues remain unresolved, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney for Applicants at the telephone number indicated below in order to expeditiously resolve any remaining issues.

Respectfully submitted,

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